

CORRESPONDENCE

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EPIDEMIOLOGY OF SKIN DISEASES IN AFRICA

TO THE EDITOR:

A pilot survey on the subject of the heading of this note has yielded such interesting material that I am preparing, with the assistance of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, to make a large-scale investigation of the distribution and incidence of skin diseases on the continent of Africa. The ultimate aim is to establish a central office for information and a reference library of literature and photographs.

I wish to approach not only those in scientific and academic institutions, but also anyone who practices or has practiced in Africa who could supply information even if it should be only a limited field of the question. I would welcome the hospitality of your columns to bring this request to their attention. Questionnaires will be sent on request to anyone willing to help.

A great deal of most useful information has come from leprologists, and I should like to interest more of them in my project. I shall be presenting my preliminary findings in Washington in September at the International Congress on Dermatology.

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